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(71) Applicant: **DAICEL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD.**
Sakai-shi, Osaka 590-8501 (JP)

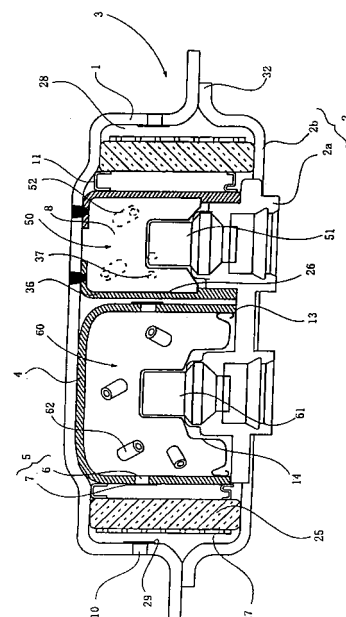
(72) Inventors:
• **Nakashima, Yoshihiro**
Ibogawa-cho
Ibo-gun
Hyogo 671-1681 (JP)
• **Ohji, Nobuyuki**
Ibogawa-cho
Ibo-gun
Hyogo 671-1681 (JP)
• **Katsuda, Nobuyuki**
Himeji-shi
Hyogo 671-1146 (JP)

(74) Representative: **Grünecker, Kinkeldey,**
Stockmair & Schwanhäusser
Anwaltssozietät
Maximilianstrasse 58
80538 München (DE)

(54) **Multistage gas generator for air bag and air bag apparatus**

(57) The invention relates to a multistage gas generator for an air bag, having a cylindrical housing (3) comprising a plurality of gas discharge ports (10) formed in a cylindrical side wall, a plurality of combustion chambers (50,60) for accommodating gas generating means (52,62) provided in the housing, ignition means (51,61) disposed in each of the combustion chambers (50,60) for igniting and burning the gas generating means (52,62), wherein, in the housing, at least one of a plurality of the combustion chambers (50,60) is disposed inside of an inner shell (4) provided eccentrically with respect to the center axis of the housing (3), wherein the inner shell (4) is provided with an opening portion (5) which opens by combustion of the gas generating means (52,62) in one of the combustion chambers (50,60) and wherein the opening portion (5) is realized by providing the inner shell (4) with a notch or by reducing the thickness of a portion of the inner shell (4).

Fig. 1





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 5 November 2007	Examiner Burley, James
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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